

TIMELINEZ

ONE YEAR OLD

Volume 2 Issue 6

JUNE 1984

\$1.00

Modem Information
Wordprocessing Review
Hostel Exchange

Computer Faire Report
New Z-80 Instructions
Latest News & Rumors

T/S Users Meet On Compuserve

by Norm Lehfeldt
(Compuserve ID # 7246 3273)

Now that you've finally got your hands on a modem, what can you do with it?

If you have succumbed to the temptation to subscribe to Compuserve, you can share concerns and knowledge with other Timex/Sinclair users in our own special interest group. Yes, it's true, even though you won't find it in the Compuserve Index, there is a T/S group! Here's how to find it:

Once you have logged on to Compuserve, enter "GO CEM 450". This takes you into the Computers and Electronics Magazine Special Interest Group (CEM SIG), wherein resides a little band of T/S aficionados carrying on as if Timex were still in business.

The first time you enter CEM SIG, you will be encouraged to log on as a member. Go ahead and do so. Just follow the prompts (Remember to give your name not a CB Handle--You're among friends here). Once you are logged on as a member you have access to all the CEM SIG features.

Each time you log on thereafter you will probably want to read the bulletins and new messages first thing. You choose these options from the Function Menu. Once you have caught up on those, you may want to check in on the on-line conference (Number 6 on the Function Menu).

There you will often find folks just shooting the breeze on

computer topics. A special feature is the Timex/Sinclair conference (Wednesdays, 7:00P.M. PDT) hosted by System Operator (SYSOOP) Patrick. It's a chance to catch up on the latest T/S gossip, get technical help, learn where to buy hard to get hard/software or just meet some friendly fellow computer enthusiasts.

Another feature of CEM SIG you will want to check out is the Data Base or XA. Entering XA (instead of a menu item number) at the function menu prompt will give you a list of the data base sections and their subjects. Section 4 is the Timex/Sinclair section. It contains programs you can download from Compuserve into your very own computer--provided you are using Byte-Back Co.'s ZCOMM modem software. You can also upload programs to XA 4 which can then be downloaded by other subscribers.

It takes a bit of experience and some perusal of Compuserve's users guides to be able to access all of the features of the Special Interest Groups on the system. But for those of us faced with diminishing commercial support for our computers, the Timex/Sinclair section on CEM SIG makes it worthwhile.

TIMELINEZ (c) is the joint publication of three Timex/Sinclair User Groups in the San Francisco / Oakland / San Jose Bay Areas. Old and new members are always welcome - so are experienced hardware and software hackers as well as beginners. Hope to see YOU at our next meeting.

EBZUG	3rd. Thu.	6/21	7/19
PUG	3rd. Sun.	6/17	7/15
SUSTUG	Last Tue.	6/26	7/31

SOFTWARE REVIEW

By Walt Gaby

W P 3 2

WP32 is a wordprocessor and much more!!! This program, written by PUG-member Bob Orrfelt, has five major components:

1. Word Processing,
2. Banners,
3. Special Characters,
4. Hex Utilities, and
5. Save-Load.

The wordprocessing component has five sub-parts: text, headlines, single lines, screen graphics, and format/print.

The text element provides for up to 320 lines (15 screens). Full-screen editing includes letter deletion, letter insertion, line deletion, line insertion, line copy, and deletion of a block of lines.

With 320 lines, it is easily possible to work on several letters or memos at the same time. This article, for instance, used only 150 lines; while writing it, I occasionally switched to a memorandum that I was preparing for my wife.

The second subroutine allows for the creation of up to eight quarter-inch headlines...

SUCH AS THIS

The single-line section provides a place for up to eight lines of standard text for such purposes as a letterhead that you wish to include as part of the printout or for notes that you would not want to print in your final document.

The screen graphics section provides a powerful set of methods for generating exhibits for inclusion in your letters or documents. These include a box to frame the exhibit, text statements, circles, lines (anywhere from straight to half-circle in form), and the ability to plot and erase complex drawings pixel by pixel.

The last section of the word-processing component provides for formatting your document and producing hardcopy on a TS-2040 printer. The user simply identifies the sequence of blocks of text, headlines, single lines, and exhibits. The sequence can also include special spacing and lines between the elements to be printed.

The second major component of WP32 provides for the creation and printing of banners. These banners can have letters which are either 1 inch high or 2.5 inches high.

The third major section of WP32 offers a choice of four special sets of 21 additional characters (available through the graphics key): general symbols, scientific symbols, Greek letters, and Spanish letters.

The next major sub-program provides a choice of a Hex Peek or a Hex Poke routine. Following the input of a starting hex address, the Hex Peek routine will generate a printout of decimal address, hex address, and hex byte. The Hex Poke routine lets the user input hex bytes starting at any selected address.

I used the Hex Poke routine to replace the Greek letters with Russian letters:

Б Г Д Ё Ж З И Й Л П
Ф Ц Ч Ш Щ В Ъ З Ю Я

The results of the hex routines, of course, remain in memory even after you clear the WP32 program with the NEW command.

The final major component of the WP32 package includes the Save-Load routines. The user has the choice of saving everything, or just the headlines, or just the text, or just the graphic exhibit. The same four choices are available with regard to loading.

The documentation which accompanies the WP32 program is very well organized. The instruction, whether by explanation or by example, is such that the user can begin using all of its features in a very short time.

The manual also has an appendix which contains a complete listing of the machine code for the standard ROM characters as well as for the four special sets of additional characters.

Since this program is written in BASIC, typing has to occur at a slightly slower pace than with a typewriter. But it is easy to learn the pace. The WP32 does not include a few features found in many word processors. For instance, it does not provide margin justification, but that is a feature which I think is greatly overrated.

Considering the many features of the WP32 (and the low price of \$24.95), it is a very good program indeed!

TIMELINEZ

TIMELINEZ shares the following Hostel article as a service to our readers. We assume no responsibility for the program.

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T/S HOSTEL SYSTEM & RICK JOHNSON

I have started a system to pair up Timex/Sinclair Users who wish to travel with those who would like to share programs, ideas, and a place to stay with other users. The way it works is as follows:

- 1) Fill out the attached registration cards for either a traveler or a hostel provider.
- 2) Send the completed form to Rick Johnson, 11 Funston Ln., Cincinnati, OH 45218.
- 3) I will match up the two with a computer database search program. If a match is found, I will notify the traveler of the match and request a fee of \$5.00 for the first contact and \$3.00 for each additional contact. The fee applies only to the traveler. Upon receipt I will notify both parties in writing. All further contacts will be between the two parties. In the event that arrangements cannot be made, the two people may wish to set something up latter.
- 4) All those travelers who are paired up are encouraged to join the list of hostel providers.

VISITOR'S FORM

Name: _____
 Addr: _____
 City: _____ St. _____
 Zip: _____ Home Ph. _____
 Work Ph. _____
 Can You Host A T/S User? _____
 Can You Bring Sleeping Bags? _____
 No Of People Visiting? _____
 Special Conditions: _____
 Cities/States To Visit Dates: _____

Please Note Other Stops On Back
 Send To: T/S Hostel System C/O
 Rick Johnson 11 Funston
 Thanks Cincinnati Oh 45218

HOSTEL PROVIDER'S FORM

Name: _____
 Addr: _____
 City: _____ St. _____
 Zip: _____ Home Ph. _____
 Work Ph. _____
 Spare Bedroom Available: _____
 Space For Sleeping Bags: _____
 Best Time For Visit: _____
 Special Conditions: _____
 Notes: _____

Please Draw Map On Back Thanks
 Send To: T/S Hostel System C/O
 Rick Johnson 11 Funston
 Cincinnati Oh 45218

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=====

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TIMEX ANNOUNCES SCHEMATIC AND TECHNICAL MANUAL FOR THE 2068

A large schematic diagram of the 2068 may be purchased for \$2.50 (postage included) from the Timex facility in Little Rock, Arkansas. The schematic will be available starting April 1st.

A comprehensive Technical Manual will also be available starting May 1, 1984. The manual is quite lengthy and will be priced at \$25.00. It includes ALL technical information which is available from Timex for the 2068.

Subjects covered include memory, bank switching, block diagram, I/O facilities, I/O port layout map, interface with external devices, connector specifications, character set, system software, commands available on the 2068 but not the ZX Spectrum, advanced video modes, connection of RGB Monitor and other information.

The address for both items is:

Timex Materials Sales Div.
 P.O. Box 1378
 Little Rock, AR 72203

TIMEX SURVIVORS

TIMELINEZ has just received a very interesting publication. It is called THE TIMEX SURVIVORS FLYER and it is published by GAMES TO LEARN BY, INC.

The Flyer is a combination of ads for larger Timex S/U and H/U suppliers and news, articles, reviews, etc. It contains about 11 pages.

To obtain your free copy write:

TIMEX SURVIVORS
 GAMES TO LEARN BY, INC.
 P.O. BOX 575
 2 SOUTH STREET
 WILLIAMSBURG, MA 01896

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Undocumented Z-80 Instructions

by Frank Moura

As we probably know by now there are two registers in the Z-80 called the IX and IY registers. All of the official instructions (published by Zilog) for these registers are all 16 bit operations. This programmer has found there use awkward, and not useful. They are probably good for absolute indexing of tables and lists that always have absolute offsets to the elements in question.

A typical instruction like LD A,(IX + dis) is an example of the problem. "dis" is a displacement byte. This displacement is added to the address in IX. The byte at this location is then loaded into the A register. Well, "dis" must evaluate to a numerical constant. This can be in the form of an EQU which is a label, (ex. FOO EQU 80h) that when used as an operand in an instruction evaluates to a number. So, LD A,(IX + FOO) is then a legal statement. This, however, is as far as the flexibility of these registers went.

Back to the matter at hand. One may notice with a quick look at the Z-80 instruction set that all of the instructions start with DDh for IX, and FDh for the IY. Now here's the good news, these registers have also 8-bit operations. Any operation that uses the registers H or L may be preceded by DDh or FDh and they will operate on the HighX or LowX and Y registers. This gives you 4 more 8 bit registers to use.

A suggested syntax for these registers is XH,XL and YH,YL. A way to generate these is to precede the normal H and L instructions with DD or FD respectively. The DEFB (DB) assembler directive is quite useful for this purpose.

Here are a few of the instructions that can be used in this manner. Remember that all of the next instructions can be used on both the IX and IY registers by placing the appropriate byte in front of the instruction :

LD H,r	LD L,r		CP H	CP L
LD r,H	LD r,L		DEC H	DEC L
LD H,L	LD L,H		INC H	INC L
ADC A,H	ADC A,L		OR H	OR L
ADD A,H	ADD A,L		SBC A,H	SBC A,L
AND H	AND L		SUB H	SUB L

All of the BIT manipulation instructions (SET,RES,BIT) do not work with these registers nor do any of the IN or OUT instructions, but these new instructions make the normally dull and unexciting IX and IY register into a different animal altogether. Enjoy



 * ZUG
 * UG
 * ZUG User's Group
 * Meetings begin at 7:30 PM:
 * JUNE 21, 1984
 * JULY 19, 1984
 * AUGUST 16, 1984
 * SEPTEMBER 20, 1984
 * OCTOBER 18, 1984
 * NOVEMBER 15, 1984
 * DECEMBER 13, 1984

We currently use the public meeting room of the West Branch of the Berkeley Public Library. Meetings are generally on the third Thursday of each month - watch for announced changes in this box. Tables and limited power outlets are available (bring power strips) so your equipment is always welcome.

For more information contact:

Joel Brody
 3807 Elston
 Oakland, CA 94602
 (415) 531-6566

Or (Newsletter Ed. and Info.)

Rick Link
 654 40th Street
 Richmond, CA 94805
 (415) 234-3310



PENINSULA USERS GROUP - PUG

Meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month, 1 P.M.

JUNE 17
 JULY 15

Meet. rooms are on lower floor.

NOTE: Please use the entrance on the north side of the hospital. Also try to park on north side, not in visitor's lot. THANKS.

Electrical outlets and tables are available so bring your equip. and extension cords if possible. Cafeteria service is available and families are welcome. Hope to see you soon.

MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE:

FULL (Newsletter and S/U library privileges) \$15/YR

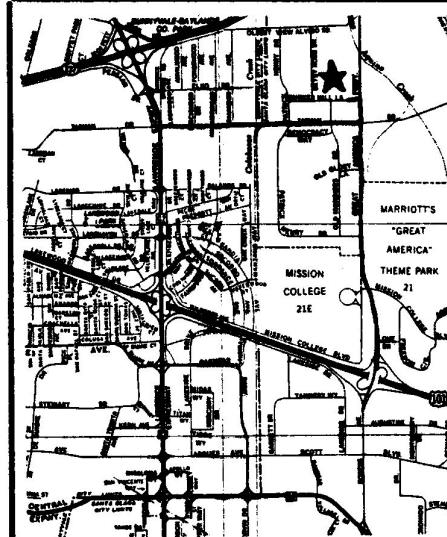
PARTIAL (Newsletter only) \$10/YR

For more information contact:

George Mockridge
 263 Gateway #107
 Pacifica, CA 94044
 (415) 359-3198

Send newsletter contributions:

Frank Moura
 858 Chenery St.
 San Francisco, CA 94131
 (415) 333-2231



Silicon Valley SINCLAIR/TIMEX
 User Group (SUS/ZUG)
 P.O. BOX 4133
 Santa Clara, CA 95054-0133
 (408) 738-2888 X4579

President	John Libardo	2028
Vice President	Bob Dohany	1000
Treasurer	Jeffrey C. Miller	1000
Secretary	Marvin Elwell	1000
Public Relations	Jerry Jones	1000
Education	Bill Miller	1000
Membership	Mark Waller	1000

Rita Carr
 Jack Dohany
 Marvin Elwell
 Jerry Jones
 Bill Miller
 Mark Waller

SUS/ZUG meets the last Tuesday of the month at:
 Dysan Corp. Headquarters
 5201 Patrick Henry Drive
 Santa Clara

Upcoming meetings:

JUNE 26
 JULY 31
 AUG 28

TIMELINEZ

Complete report on the recent Computer Faire.
Also, info. on modems and breaking into programs.

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- Computer Faire Report

* BY Bill Miller
408 283-3176

FOR Silicon Valley
Sinclair/Timex
User Group
SUS-TUG
P.O. BOX 4133
Santa Clara, CA 95054-0133

During the 1984 West Coast Computer Faire, March 22nd to 25th, the Timex user groups had booth #1 in room 201 of the San Francisco Civic Auditorium.
- We wish to thank Mr. Ira Kuchek and the Management of the West Coast Computer Faire for making this booth available at no cost.
- We handed out 200-250 information packages:

* Timex Sinclair 2060 data sheet
* San Francisco Bay Area User Groups addresses & meeting dates
* Timex Sinclair 1500 data sheet
* Timex Sinclair 2020 data sheet
* Timex Sinclair 2040 data sheet
* Timex Sinclair 1000 data sheet
* Timex Sinclair 1010 data sheet

- We sold 30-35 newsletters and collected \$20.50.
- We were contacted by (got business cards from) 5 people:

* Carl L. Bascom
Vice Consul (Commercial)
British Consulate- General
120 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94148
415 981-3030
(Mr. Bascom has seen the Sinclair GL demonstrated at Sir Clive Sinclair's home.)

* Jim McMurry
Mentor Computers
1901 Old Middlefield Road #9
MTN VIEW, CA 94040
(415) 941-7781
(Jim was one of the early T/S User Group members. We didn't get a chance to find out what Mentor specializes in.)

* Sandra Gay
Friends Software
P.O. Box 527
Berkeley, CA 94701-0527
(Friend Report Generator, which reads ASCII, BASIC, COBOL, and DBASE II formats - Handy for those of you running DBASE II on your T/S 1000.)

* Jorge Aranovich
Portland Technology
6 West 32nd Street
New York, NY 10001
(Portland exports Timex computers to Argentina and Mr. Aranovich is trying to set up a user group in Argentina.)

* William E. Black, Jr., P.E.
Industrial Engineering
Coordinator
Engineering Technical Unit
U.S. Postal Service
Bakersfield, CA 93302-9998
(805) 651-4109 / FT5 981-4109
(Mr. Black is interested in starting or joining a User Group in his area.)

- 13 people signed our Other Area User Groups list, indicating they were already part of another User Group or wished to start one or join one in their area:

* Peter Cummins
P.O. Box 782
Middletown, CA 95461
709 987-2477

* Mark Headrick
P.O. Box 6466
Reno, NV 89567
782 747-2436

* Rod McKenzie
2625 Berkry Dr
Fairfield, CA 94533
707 422-5262

* Thomas Whitson
(User's Club)
1400 Gurneville Road
Santa Rosa, CA
707 623-1766

* George Britt
(Sacto User's Group)
1961 Howe Ave #118
Sacramento, CA 95825
916 922-8143

* Jeff Lasman
Valley Computer Club
1409 Kuehner Dr.
Simi Valley, CA 93063

* George Hadley
1401 SW 172
Seattle, WA

* Ray Makino
415 El Camino Del Mar
San Francisco, CA 94121

* Mr. Thomas R Poston
44 Liebig
San Francisco, CA 94112

* Richard Jung
4839 High St
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

* Kathy Smith
945A Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

* Gerry Stwora
96 California Av
San Leandro, CA 94577

- Three Programs were donated to the club for Public Domain use:

*-'Address Book' For the T/S1000
BY Bob Kovach

415 884-5160
This is a data base program that can take advantage of a T/S1000 series computer with 64K, it requires at least 16K.

*-'Othello' For the T/S1000
BY James Ruetenik

415 933-7530
This Program is in machine code and is about 23000 BYTES long. Unshifted arrow keys move the cursor. Press 'R' key to return to basic. Press 'C' key to enter move. Illegal move will not enter.

*-'Machine Code Loader'
FOR T/S1000
BY James Ruetenik

This Program is in machine code and is about 700 bytes long, but since it loads at 32000 you will need 16K RAM. The Program lets you page through RAM and make changes. Use 'RAND USR 32000' to get into the program once it is LOADED.

Prompts Are:
H-enter 2 HEX digits for high Page
L-enter 2 HEX digits for low Page

To move the inverse video cursor use:
'T' key to move cursor left
'Y' key to move cursor down
'U' key to move cursor up
'I' key to move cursor right

Press the 'P' key to page through memory.

Press the 'R' key to return to BASIC.

Press the 'SHIFT' & 'U' keys to jump to and run machine code.

Press the 'X' key for HEX to DECIMAL conversion.

Press the 'Q' key to quit HEX to DECIMAL conversion.

For A&J Microdrive owners or owners of other "Exatron" style Floppy for the Timex Sinclair, the above programs are available on wafer from:
The Public Domain Software Exchange
1050 E. Duane Ave, Suite I
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

If you have a modem you may want to contact the PDSE bulletin board at:
408 735-7190

Protocol is:
300/1200 BAUD
No parity
8 DATA bits
1 STOP bits
Use 3 slow carriage returns ('ENTER' or 'NEWLINE' for the Timex Sinclair?) when logging on to allow the system to establish the BAUD rate.

Public Domain S/W Exchange for MODEMS.

- We also received literature from 4 organizations:

* Ron Jeffries
Editor of The Jeffries Report
He has a very nice article about why the T/S1000 is a crummy computer.
According to Chris Crawford (late of Atari), Mr. Jeffries also wrote an article last fall about how the Peanut was going to revolutionize the computer industry.

* Monotech- about thier new computer

* Axonix- About thier portable, battery operated, 8.5in wide, thermal printer, 4Lb, \$279.
Is anyone interested in helping to interface it to the Timex Sinclair?

* Friends Software- About thier Report Generator for DBase II, ASCII, BASIC, or COBOL files.

- We learned a lot at the Faire which will help us do a better job next year:

* Have a list of all user groups so out of town users can contact a group near them.

* Contact other user groups and provide them with the user group list to have at Faires in which they participate.

* Sign up for upcoming Faires.

** Timelinez for 1985 West Coast Computer Faire

STOP AUTO-RUNNING PROGRAMS ON YOUR TS1000

After I interfaced my T/S1000 with an Arco disk interface, I was faced with a small problem. How could I stop an automatic running program from a purchased cassette tape so I could save it to disk??!! Fortunately, the place I purchased the disk interface had a one line load sequence that did just what I wanted.

Instead of LOAD...
Use SAVE CHR\$ USR 832...

As the monitor screen first clears of the heavy horizontal bars, hit the BREAK key (you have 3 seconds) and the computer will stop at line 0.

Now, the program can be modified to SAVE to disk or another tape.

I hope this 'pseudo LOAD step will be of use to other members of the User Group.

Gerry Skiver 540403D

I CAN'T WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR
I DON'T HAVE A WORD PROCESSOR

As you can see, it isn't that hard. All you need is a TS2068 and a TS2040 Printer.

RUN saves the program to cassette and RUN 100 prints out your article.

Bill Miller 840531D

```

10 SAVE "ART840531": REM 09 31
11 STOP
120 FOR I=1000 TO 2000 STEP 10
120 READ RS
130 LPRINT RS
140 NEXT I
1000 DATA "INVERTING SCREEN DISPLAY -ERRORS"
1010 DATA "
1020 DATA "P36)*RS, Second Line ...05D68077
1030 DATA "Nct G
1040 DATA " *LET Not LGT"
1050 DATA " Should be D6
1060 DATA "P37/16529      S
1070 DATA " 16535 (missing) S
1080 DATA " 16542      S
1090 DATA " 16542      S
1100 DATA " I CAN T WRITE AN AR
1110 DATA " I DON T HAVE A WORD
1120 DATA " As you can see, it
1130 DATA " RUN saves the prog
1140 DATA " ram to cassette and RUN 100
1150 DATA " prints out your article."
        DATA " Bill Miller
        DATA " 840531D"

```

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ESF Drive 2	\$99.50
ESF Owners Manual	\$4.95

MICRO WAFER

5 ft	\$3.50
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20 ft	\$4.00
35 ft	\$4.00
50 ft	\$4.50

SOFTWARE

Machine Language Monitor (helps with Machine Language Programs)	\$19.95
---	---------

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Sunnyvale, CA 94086
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INVERTING SCREEN DISPLAY -ERRORS
P36)*RS, Second Line ...05D68077
 *LET Not LGT
P37/16529 Should be D6
16535 (missing) Should be S0
16542 Should be C9
Pete Sadler 840529D

GETTING ACQUAINTED

It might be nice if we could find out a little more about each other (unique interests, equipment or projects). That way we can find others with similar interests and we might reduce duplication of effort.

I'll start out. INTERESTS Maintaining the records of small (or even large) organizations on inexpensive computers using simple, easy to understand programs.

Power Boat Racing, and Computer User Group organizations are examples. Also computer timing and displays for Power Boat Racing.

EQUIPMENT S Sinclair/Timex computers, 2 TRS-80 computers, Stringy Floppy Wafer Drives for TS1000/1500 and TRS-80 Model I Hunter board (8K battery backed up CMOS memory), Byte-Back 64K memory and User Friendly Research Real Time Clock board for TS1000/1500.

PROJECTS Stringy Floppy for the TS2068, Hardware & Software to make TS1000, TS2068, ZX Spectrum & Sinclair QL compatible.

If readers will send me similar information I will attempt to compile it and publish it in TIMELINEZ.

BILL MILLER
6575 Clifford Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014
408 253-3175

EXTRON STRINGY FLOPPY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

SINCLAIR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

For those of you with Stringy Floppies for your TS1000, maybe you would be interested in a Sinclair Special Interest Group (SIG).

If enough of us get together and combine enough talents we may be able to do the TS2068 SIG ourselves. Every Stringy Floppy product has been done by a member of [redacted], so it isn't impossible.

Maybe we could have a regular section of TIMELINEZ devoted to [redacted] SIG topics. Here are some examples:

CONVERT YOUR CAI 2K ROM STRINGY FLOPPY TO WORK WITH THE 4K ROM A&J INTERFACE

To convert your CAI Stringy Floppy Wafer Drive unit to work with the A&J Interface, one trace must be cut and one jumper must be added.

Cut the trace from connector CN pin 7 to IC3 pin 6.

Add a jumper from connector CN pin 7 to IC3 pin 20.

This modification provides +5 volts to the A&J Interface which gets it's power from the ESF drive unit. If you already have one drive providing the power to the interface, you should be able to use your CAI drive as a second drive by just changing the drive selection jumper.

Ref 831007N

Tree-Forth Users

J. Cohen
POB 1240
Mendocino, 95460

I am interested to know if anybody else has their TS 1000 on the Tree-Forth chip from Softmagic Corp. Perhaps you could put a note to this effect in the next Timelines and we could start a Tree-Forth group.

** WP32 ** Word Processing!

Featuring:

- 1/4" high headings
- figures in text
- full screen editor
- extra character sets
- printer format control
- standard single lines
- banners
- SAVE and LOAD files

Send \$24.95 to:

Bob Orrfelt
3436 Bay Road,
Redwood City, CA 94063

UPDATE
by RITA L CARR

* Brian Leary, Energy Management Rep. from PG&E, spoke at the May meeting on home energy management/security systems using a personal computer. Although little h/w, s/w, and info are available for the home, Brian has informed me of a home control system that is compatible with any of the Apple II computers. I also have lists of residential energy conservation projects that qualify for Calif. state, Federal, and PG&E's Zero Interest Payment (ZIP) plan. Contact me for further details.

* Bob McConahy and a small group in Washington DC are involved in building a parallel and serial ports, disc interface, speech synthesizer, clock, and other "goodies" into a 3/4 inch "basement" to fit under the 2068.

* From Dick Wagner of Clackamas County Area T/S Users in Oregon: "For 2068 users who suffer hearing loss and find the "click" of the keyboard inadequate, try POKE 23639,100. If you don't want any sound, POKE 23609,0. Does your 2068 start to repeat before you're

ready? Try POKE-ing a new number into address 23561. It is set at 35 on power up. A larger number will cause a longer delay before repeat begins."

HEARD IN THE ALLEY!

- Bob Orrfelt -

I called ASTEC about the 2068 cartridge they developed for Timex. They said the work was done under contract by their research department and they didn't want to talk to anyone who didn't want to buy less than 20,000 pieces. Ho hum.

Also called Alphacom, the maker of the 2040 printer. All new people in marketing. They haven't seen a 2040. They ship the UK version (with UK power supply) directly from the Orient to England. Asked about repair parts. They said they would get back to me.

Heard from a reliable source that Bob Howell went to Hong Kong to see about 2068 stringy floppies. They want an initial order for 100,000 units. Sure they do.

Talked to Dave Higgenbottom (213-864-7068) of Trinity Magnum. He said details are under way with Timex to buy 1500 & 2068's. He said it will take maybe a week; maybe 10 days. These would be sold through stores known as the Little Computer Stores. The stores are to be financed by limited partnerships. His address is:

Trinity Magnum
10614 Roseton,
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90070

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